



United States Department of the Interior  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
<http://www.blm.gov>



May 21, 2009

Board Trustees and Staff  
Mustang Heritage Foundation  
P.O. Box 703  
Bertram, Texas 78605

Dear Board Trustees and Staff:

On behalf of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Wild Horse and Burro Program, I would like to apologize for the situation that occurred at the recent Norco Extreme Mustang Trail Challenge, where a horse was inadvertently selected that had a previous short adoption history. We take full responsibility for the incident and would like to assure you that the BLM Wild Horse and Burro Program will enact a new policy to protect the integrity of the trainers and the Mustang Heritage Foundation.

All wild horses selected by the BLM for Mustang Heritage Foundation competitive events and adoptions will have their freemark marks checked in the BLM computer system to ensure that they have never been adopted or trained or returned to a BLM facility.

All wild horses selected for Mustang Heritage Foundation competitive events will be reexamined to verify their age.

All mares selected for Mustang Heritage Foundation competitive events will have been off the range for a minimum of 12 months. If there is any chance a mare has been exposed to a stallion, she will not be selected for any competitive event.

Thank you for your continued efforts to find good homes for the wild horses by promoting their trainability and versatility.

Sincerely,

Don Glenn  
Division Chief  
Division of Wild Horses and Burros



## Mustang Heritage Foundation Statement Regarding Competition

We regret that an administrative error has been made by the BLM that has impacted the integrity and outcome of the NORCO Extreme Mustang Trail Challenge. The BLM mistake placed a horse with previous adoption history into the pool of available mustangs which ultimately won the challenge. The trainer had no knowledge of this mistake and worked hard to deliver a finished horse that wowed the crowd and the judges during the event. This should in no way reflect on the tremendous talent and efforts of the trainer. The Mustang Heritage Foundation staff was informed of this situation on Sunday afternoon, following the finals competition and award presentation, and have been diligently working to find a solution.

We have revised the awards list and will award the first place mustang the full amount while elevating the Reserve Champion through 10<sup>th</sup> place mustangs up one placing and awarding them the appropriate increase in winnings. The mustang placing 11<sup>th</sup> in the preliminary competition will receive 10<sup>th</sup> place finalist awards. (See following Finals awards.)

The Mustang Heritage Foundation is taking action to assure this does not happen in the future, requiring the BLM better scrutinizes individual horse records prior to the horses being made available for the events.

The Mustang Heritage Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) public, charitable, nonprofit organization dedicated to facilitating successful adoptions for America's excess mustangs and burros. Founded in 2001, its mission is to help promote the Bureau of Land Management's National Wild Horse and Burro Program and increase the number of successful adoptions.

<b>NORCO EXTREME MUSTANG TRAIL CHALLENGE</b>						
<b>FREESTYLE FINALS</b>						
		<b>FREEZE</b>	<b>TRAINER</b>			
<b>HIP#</b>	<b>MUSTANG</b>	<b>MARK</b>	<b>FIRST</b>	<b>LAST</b>	<b>Placing</b>	<b>Prize Money</b>
17	Windy	06600256	Buzz	Riebschlager	Champion	\$ 3,000.00
22	Jessie Jane	05601115	Lorrie	Grover	Co-Champion	\$ 3,000.00
26	She's Country	05182075	Logan	Leach	2nd	\$ 2,000.00
3	Shelby	06181526	Linda	Smerber	3rd	\$ 1,500.00
15	Soso	06182015	Lanny	Leach	4th	\$ 1,000.00
19	Traysay	06181913	Tim	Delsman	5th	\$ 750.00
5	Valentine	06181538	Madelyn	Wagner	6th	\$ 550.00
28	Tiny Dancer	05181507	Tom	Shiloh	7th	\$ 400.00
16	Camilla	05182126	George	Ortiz	8th	\$ 300.00
24	Ruger	05181542	Jennifer	White	9th	\$ 250.00
7	Shez Arwyn R (Arwyn)	06181874	Alissa	Booher	10th	\$ 250.00